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PLANTAE NOVAE AFRICANAE.

"Ex Africa semper aliquid novi."—*Pliny*.

SERIES XXIX.

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(With Plates VII—VIII).

Aspalathus neglectus Salter sp. nov. (Leguminosae—Papilionatae)
§ Sympetaleae.

Frutex ramosissimus, ad 1·5 m. altus, *A. ciliari* L. vel *A. chenopodo* L. affinis, sed ambobus bractea florali simplici, haud trifoliolata differt: etiam ab *A. ciliari* calycis dentibus foliolisque subpungentibus et alis brevioribus: ab *A. chenopodo* foliolis minus pungentibus et vexillo latissime obovato vel suborbiculari.

A dense much branched shrub, up to 1·5 m. high: the stem grey, branchlets villous. *Leaves* fascicled: leaflets terete, usually straight, mostly 0·6—1·4 cm. long, scarcely 1 mm. broad, more or less pilose with tubercle-based hairs, subpungent, the spines soon brown-tipped. *Flowers* yellow, at length rusty red, terminal or apparently lateral on very short branchlets, more rarely 2—3 capitate. *Peduncles* scarcely 1 mm. long, villous, concealed by the leaf-tufts. *Bract* and *bracteoles* filiform, subpungent: bract 0·8—1·2 cm. long, arising at the base of the peduncle: bracteoles 7—8 mm. long, arising on the calyx tube. *Calyx* 1·2—1·5 cm.

long, the narrow-linear tapering subpungent teeth longer than the villous tube, the two upper slightly falcate and spreading. *Vexillum* 1.5—1.9 cm. long with a short claw, the lamina very broadly obovate or suborbicular, bright yellow and glabrous above, densely villous below, minutely cuspidate at the apex: laminae of the *alae* 8—9 mm. long, the claws only adnate to the staminal tube near the base: *carina* pale, 1.3—1.5 cm. long, suberect, obtuse, dorsally more or less pubescent, the claw adnate. *Ovary* 2-ovuled, villous. *Legume* shortly stipitate, subovoid, obliquely acute at the apex, 7—8 mm. long, 1-seeded.

Hab. Cape Province. Cape Peninsula; near Exeter Avenue on the north slope of Wynberg Hill, below the Beacon. Alt. about 600 ft. *Salter* 9007 (*type* in the Bolus Herbarium). Stellenbosch Div.; Banhoek Valley, *C. Thorne* (S.A. Mus. 51212). Flowers Oct.—Jan.

In some respects this species looks like an intermediate between *A. ciliaris* L. and *A. chenopodus* L. and it may have been formerly mistaken for one of them. It differs, however, from both in its simple filiform floral bract, the bract in the two species mentioned being trifoliate. The plant is much less pungent than *A. chenopodus*, a harshly prickly species with a capitate inflorescence, and a very differently shaped vexillum, while *A. ciliaris* could not be described as spiny at all. There is a complete absence of any evidence of hybridity, at least 80 entirely similar bushes having been observed within a small area, nor are there any other species in the vicinity which could be suspected as the parents.

It is very remarkable that it should have escaped notice for so long, occurring as it does in quantity in such a well-collected area. The ground on which it grows is in a fork between two newly built roads and it has been much disturbed and opened up in recent years, having been formerly infested with Australian Wattle. Other species of the § *Sympetalae*, such as *A. chenopodus* L. and *A. astroites* L. are in the habit of springing up in abundance on cleared or burnt ground, the seeds probably lying dormant for years, and this may account for its sudden appearance. It is feared, however, that it will not long survive in its present habitat since the vicinity is being rapidly transformed into a residential area.

Like several of the larger species of *Aspalathus* it is evidently quick-growing and short-lived, the plants dying suddenly when looking apparently healthy. Near the middle of January five of the older plants in the colony were observed to have turned to various conspicuous shades of reddish brown or almost brick-red, had become brittle and were obviously dying, whereas a fortnight earlier they had been green and profusely covered with withered flowers. By the end of January about twelve of the bushes were dying.

The specimen S.A. Mus. 51212, from Stellenbosch Div., though

the vexillum is rather narrower, appears to be inseparable from *A neglectus*.

Moraea papilionacea (L.f.) Ker. var. **Maythamiae** Lewis var. nov. (Iridaceae).

A typo foliis angustioribus parce pilosis et spathis glabris, differt.

Hab. Cape Peninsula, Rondebosch Common, *Salter* 8989, *Wilman* 73. (*Type* in South African Museum and Bolus Herbarium.)

Height about 15 cm. *Leaves* 2, 15—20 cm. long, 1—2 mm. wide, slightly folded, sparsely pilose. *Spathes* glabrous. *Flowers* deep salmon-pink, the claw and base of the blade of the outer segments yellow.

Flowering season August—September.

The much narrower leaves and glabrous spathes give a very distinct appearance to this variety but the flowers and other vegetative parts are exactly like those of the typical *M. papilionacea*, a species fairly common on the Cape Peninsula and elsewhere. The variety, however, appears to be extremely local and has so far only been recorded from a small area on the Rondebosch Common. Miss Mary Maytham, in whose honour the variety is named, first recorded and figured it during the course of her work on a book illustrating some of the flowers of the Cape Peninsula. It has been collected again recently by Miss A. M. Wilman, assistant at the Bolus Herbarium, and by Captain T. M. Salter. The flowers do not open until late in the afternoon, which is possibly the reason why this very distinct variety has not previously been recorded.

Lachenalia variegata Barker. (Liliaceae-Scilleae).

Planta 10—40 cm. alta. *Folium* plerumque 1, raro 2, lanceolatum vel ligulatum, supra glaucum, infra et basi minute purpureo-maculatum, ad 30 cm. longum et 2.5 cm. latum, apice interdum recurvum, marginibus undulatis et ampliatis. *Racemus* pauciflorus vel multiflorus: pedunculi maculae caeruleo-purpureae: pedicelli 1—2 mm. longi. *Flores* 8—10 mm. longi, patentes vel penduli: segmenta exteriora quam interiora valde breviora, maculis variegatis viridibus caeruleis purpureis ornata, apice tumidio brunneo vel viridi: segmenta interiora medium versus flavo-iridica, margines versus albescentia, apicem versus leviter patentia, 2 superiora oppressa. *Stamina* perianthio aequantia vel leviter longiora.

Hab. Cape Province. Cape Peninsula: Paarden Eiland, *Salter* 7446 (*Type* in Herb. Nat. Bot. Gdns.), 22 Aug., 1938; *Lewis*, 22 Aug., 1938; Milnerton, *Barnes*, 11 Aug., 1929; *Lewis*, 22 Aug., 1938; Plumstead, *Arbuthnot*, Bolus Herb. 20454, Sept., 1931; *Schur*, 25 Sept., 1944; Bergvliet, *Salter* 7690, 23 Sept., 1938; Noord Hoek, *Barker*, Nat. Bot. Gdns.

479/44, 25 Sept., 1944; Karbonkelberg, *Compton* 16357, 29 Oct., 1944; *Leighton*, 28 Oct., 1944; Kalk Bay, *Barker* 4228, 16 Oct., 1944; Fish Hoek, *Schur*, 28 Sept., 1944; Glencairn, *Esterhuysen* 6019, 7 Sept., 1941; Klaasjager, *Salter* 7702, 12 Oct., 1938; Beyond Paulsberg, *Wolley Dod* 3191, 19 Sept., 1897; Cape Point, *Lewis*, 22 Aug. 1938; Flats West of Zeekoe Vlei, *Salter* 4864, 27 Sept., 1934; Cape Division: Raapenburg, *Guthrie* 60, 11 Aug., 1899; *Salter*, 25 Aug., 1938; Cape Flats, *Compton* 13456, 3 Sept., 1942; *Barker* 2980, 16 Sept., 1944; *Leighton*, 2 Sept., 1944; 3 miles West of Bellville, *Salter* 6246, 5 Sept., 1936; Kuils River, *Peers*; Groot Springfontein dunes, *Wasserfall* 230, 2 Aug., 1943; Stellenbosch Division: Faure Flats, *Arbuthnot*, Bolus Herb. 21652, 12 Aug., 1934; *Barker* 155, 12 Aug., 1934; Somerset West, *Bartlett*, Nat. Bot. Gdns. 934/23, 7 Aug., 1929; Malmesbury Division: Mamre Hills, *Compton* 15852, 31 Aug., 1944; 4 miles East of Yserfontein, *Salter* 6228, 27 Aug., 1936.

Bulb small, globose up to 2 cm. diam. *Inflorescence* 10–40 cm. high. *Leaves* usually one, rarely two, erect or spreading, sometimes recurved at the apex, lanceolate to strap-shaped with thickened undulate margins, blue-green above, finely blue-purple spotted below and on the clasping base, up to 30 cm. long and 2.5 cm. broad. *Raceme* few to many flowered: peduncle blue-purple spotted: pedicels 1–2 mm. long. *Flowers* 8–10 mm. long, spreading or pendulous: outer segments distinctly shorter than the inner, with variegated spots of green, blue and purple, the apical swelling dark brown or green.

This plant is one of several species which were wrongly included under the name *L. orchiioides* Ait. in old collections. The typical form is frequent on sandy flats, when the plants are usually robust with strong variegated markings and the stamens included, the mountain form is more slender, with the flowers paler and the stamens becoming exserted.

***Lachenalia capensis* Barker.** (Liliaceae-Scilleae).

Planta 16–40 cm. alta. *Folium* plerumque 1, interdum 2, lanceolatum vel ligulatum, pallide viride, supra interdum obscure maculatum, ad 33 cm. longum et 3 cm. latum. *Spica* multiflora: pedunculus pallide viridis, obscure maculatus, pedicellis brevissimis ad 1.5 mm. longis vel absentibus. *Flores* 1–1.5 cm. longi, patentes: segmenta exteriora quam interiora breviora, basi pallidissime caerulea, apicem versus gradatim pallidissime flava: segmenta interiora alba, medio pallidissime flava, apice vix patentia, 2 superiora oppressa. *Stamina* perianthio aequantia vel breviter exserta.

Hab. Cape Province. Cape Peninsula: Wildschutskraal, *Barker* 3883 (*Type* in Herb. Nat. Bot. Gdns.) 10 Oct., 1945; Kogelfontein,

Salter 8528, 23 Oct., 1940; *Steenberg*, *Compton* 13652, 13 Sept., 1942; *Hout Bay*, *Walgate*, 5 Sept., 1941; Rocky slopes *Smitswinkel Bay*, *Wolley Dod* 3087, 19 Sept., 1897; Castle Rocks near *Millers Point*, *Pillans* 9884, 18 Oct., 1944; Flats near *Rondebosch*, *Wolley Dod* 379, 12 Aug. 1895.

Bulb small globose, up to 2 cm. diam. *Inflorescence* 16—40 cm. high. Leaves usually one occasionally two, erect or spreading, lanceolate—strap-shaped, pale green, unspotted or faintly spotted above, up to 33 cm. long and 3 cm. broad, often with a clasping base. *Spike* many flowered; peduncle pale green, faintly spotted: pedicels wanting or very short, up to 1.5 mm. long. *Flowers* 1—1.5 cm. long, spreading: outer segments shorter than the inner, very pale blue at the base, shading to very pale yellow at apex, inner segments whitish, very pale yellow down the middle, scarcely spreading at the apex, the two upper overlapping. *Stamens* as long as the perianth or slightly exserted.

Previously included in the species *L. orchioides* Ait. or *L. glaucina* Jacq., this plant is sufficiently distinct to merit specific rank. Its inner segments are not spreading and recurved as in those species.

***Lachenalia glaucina* Jacq. var. *parviflora* Barker.** (Liliaceae-Scilleae).

Flores minores ad 1.2 cm. longi. *Segmenta* perianthii exteriora saturate caerulea, basi gradatim violacea: segmenta interiora violacea.

Hab. Cape Province. Cape Peninsula: Fireguard near *Mostert Ravine* *Wolley Dod* 380 (*Type* in *Bolus Herb.*) 12 Sept., 1895; Under pine trees at *Observatory*, *D. Davies*, 20 Aug., 1946; *Devils Peak*, *Guthrie* 1248, 8 Sept., 1892; *Tokai Flats*, *Guthrie*, 1289, Sept., 1892.

Flowers small up to 1.2 cm. long: outer segments deep blue at base shading to violet: inner segments violet.

This variety differs from the typical form only in the size of the flowers which suggested the specific name.

***Wachendorfia parviflora* Barker.** (Haemodoraceae).

Planta 10—30 cm. sed plerumque nana, 10—20 cm. alta. *Folia* linearia vel lanceolata, quam inflorescentia plerumque longiora, caeruleo-viridia, villosa ad 36 cm. longa et 2 cm. lata. *Inflorescentia* ramis numerosis brevissimis congestis induta. *Bractae* herbaceae virides, semper erectae, interdum flores excedentes. *Flores* languide flavi, deinde brunnei, perianthii segmentis angustis 1.5—2.5 cm. longis, 3—6 mm. latis, superiore plerumque angustiore. *Stamina* quam segmenta duae partes breviora.

Hab. Cape Province. Cape Peninsula: *Camps Bay*, *Salter* 7457 (*Type* in *Herb. Nat. Bot. Gdns.*) 26 Aug., 1938; Eastern slopes of *Lions Head*, *Kensit*, Sept., 1913; *Kirstenbosch*, Clearing North of Window

Stream, *Esterhuysen* 11844, Sept., 1945; Raapenburg, Mowbray, *Guthrie* 1134, 23 Aug., 1891; By Krombooms River, Rondebosch, *Wolley Dod* 527, 12 Aug., 1895; Milnerton, *Pillans*, Sept., 1913; Clovelly, *Walgate*, 25 Aug., 1941; Glencairn, *Esterhuysen* 6020, 6 Sept., 1941; *Esterhuysen*, 7 Aug., 1941; Chapman's Bay, *Wolley Dod* 1751, 15 Sept., 1896; Slangkop River, *Wolley Dod* 3317; Cape Division: Melkbosch Road, Compton 12036, 18 Oct. 1941, (fruiting); Durbanville, *Barker* 2060, 16 Sept., 1942; Malmesbury Division: Between Blaauwberg and Mamre, *Barker* 931, 14 Sept., 1940, (fruiting); Mamre Hills, *Compton* 17369, 12 Sept., 1945; Mamre Road, *Esterhuysen* 5247, 15 Sept., 1940; Near Darling, *Esterhuysen* 5246, 15 Sept. 1940; Between Darling and Ysterfontein,



FIG. 1. *Wachendorfia parviflora* Barker. 1. Flower, front view; 2. Flower, side view. 3. Flower, back view, nat. size. Del. W. F. Barker.

Barker 4600, 23 Aug., 1947; Piquetberg Division: at foot of Piquetberg Mtn., *Schlechter* 5231, 8 Sept., 1894; Clanwilliam Division; Lamberts Bay, *Burrell*, Nat. Bot. Gdns. 2023/35, 20 Aug., 1936, and 12 Sept., 1941, (fruiting); Nardouw, *Barker* 4747, 14 Sept., 1947; Bosch Kloof, Cedarberg, *Compton* 9526, 22 Sept., 1940; Pakhuis Pass, *Lewis*, Bolus Herb. 22264, Sept., 1937; Olifants River Valley, *Pearson* 7102, 22 Sept., 1911; Van Rhynsdorp Division: 6 miles from Klaver, *Krantz*, *L. Bolus*, Aug., 1932; Worcester Division: Romans River, *Compton* 11652, 14 Sept., 1941; Robertson Division; McGregor, *Barker* 1101, 24 Sept., 1941, (fruiting); *Esterhuysen* 5245.

Plant usually dwarf 10–30 cm. high. *Underground stem* small, ovate-oblong, 1–1.5 cm. diam. *Leaves* erect or spreading, linear to lanceolate, usually longer than the flowering stem, blue-green, softly hairy, up to 36 cm. long and 2 cm. broad. *Inflorescence* dense, with numerous very short, dense branches. *Bracts* herbaceous, green, always erect, sometimes produced beyond the flowers. *Flowers* dull yellow, fading brownish, segments narrow, 1.5–2.5 cm. long and 3–6 mm. broad, the upper segments usually broader than the rest. *Stamens* two-thirds the length of the perianth. *Capsule* broader than long, carpels obtuse.

No description of this plant can be traced, nor has it been illustrated, which is surprising, as it is a widely distributed species, with a distinctive dwarf habit, herbaceous erect bracts, and flowers with very narrow segments, unique in the genus. It occurs occasionally on hillsides and mountain slopes. In old collections it has been misidentified as *W. paniculata*, var. *tenella*.

Wachendorfia brachyandra Barker. (Haemodoraceae).

Planta 20—65 cm. alta. *Folia* linearia vel lanceolata, sparse pilosa vel glabra, luteo-viridia, ad 40 cm. longa et 2·5 cm. lata. *Inflorescentia* paniculata, ramis superioribus plerumque brevibus et plus minusve aequilongis, inferioribus 1—2 valde longioribus. *Flores* flavescens, maculis atro-brunneis: perianthii segmenta 1—2 cm. longa, 7 mm. lata. *Stamina* quam segmenta in longitudine dimidia, haud ferme divergentia.

Hab. Cape Province. Cape Peninsula: Kirstenbosch, *Barker* 1096 (*Type* in Herb. Nat. Bot. Gdns.) 14 Oct. 1946; *Barker* 203, 1 Oct. 1936; *Barker* 328, 18 Oct., 1937; *Barker* 333, 21 Sept., 1938; *Esterhuysen* 492, Oct., 1935, (fruiting); *Walgate*, 12 Nov., 1941, (fruiting); Newlands House Estate, *Salter* 8777, 26 Oct., 1943; Hiddingh Estate, *Barker* 2697, 25 Nov., 1943, (fruiting); Bakoven, *Barker* 3231, 26 Oct., 1944;



FIG. 2. *Wachendorfia brachyandra* Barker. 1. Flower, front view. 2. Flower, back view. 3. Flower, side view. 4. Gynaecium, nat. size. Del. W. F. Barker.

Glencairn, *Compton* 11620, 6 Sept., 1941; Vlakkenberg, *Compton* 20193, 17 Oct., 1947; Cape Division: Strandfontein, *Compton* 13692, 18 Sept., 1942; Caledon Division: Sir Lowrys Pass, *Barker* 3383, 19 Nov., 1946; Elgin, *Barker* 3365, 19 Nov., 1944; Malmesbury Division: Mamre Hills, *Compton* 9826, 12 Oct., 1940; *Slender form.* Cape Division. Cape Peninsula: Kirstenbosch, *Walgate*, 12 Nov., 1941; Modderdam, *Salter* 8718, 8 Dec., 1941; Witsands, *Salter* 8695, 10 Nov., 1941, (fruiting); *Salter* 8543, 23 Oct., 1940.

Plant 20—65 cm. high. *Underground stem* small, globose-ovate oblong 1—1·5 cm. diam. *Leaves* erect or spreading, linear to lanceolate,

sparsely hairy to glabrous, yellow-green, up to 40 cm. long and 2·5 cm. broad. *Inflorescence* a panicle, the upper branches usually short and more or less the same length, one or two of the lowest much longer. *Upper bracts* oblong ovate acuminate, submembranous, erect or spreading. *Flowers* apricot-yellow, the markings dark: segments 1—2 cm. long and 7 mm. broad. *Stamens* half as long as the perianth. *Capsule* broader than long, carpels obtuse.

This plant which is easily distinguished by its short stamens, is common on hillsides and flats, usually in damp places or beside streams. Occasionally a very slender form occurs with the leaves nearly terete, and the whole plant about 15 cm. high.



Lachenalia capensis Barker (Barker 3883)



Lachenalia variegata Barker (Salter 7446).



Wachendorfia parviflora Barker (Stalter 7457).



Wachendorfia brachyandra Barker (Barker 10965).



Lachenalia capensis Barker (Barker 3883)



Lachenalia variegata Barker (Salter 7446).



Wachendorfia parviflora Burker (Satter 7457).



Wachendorfia brachyandra Burker (Burker 1096).